

CITY NEED NOT PAY

For Light Which It Has Never Received.

MAYOR STUART PUTS HIS VETO

Against Paying in Full for Tower Lighting, Where Serious Shortages Have Been Found to Exist.

Mayor Stuart filed the following veto with the city clerk late yesterday afternoon:

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Grand Rapids: Gentlemen—By virtue of my office, I hereby suspend the operation of and veto the resolution and vote of the common council, whereby a certain report of the committee on claims and accounts presented to the common council at a public session of said council held December 12, 1932, and found on page 172 of the printed record of the proceedings of said council, was taken up and adopted (after certain amendments thereto), and the clerk and controller were instructed to draw an order on the Grand Rapids Electric Light & Power company for the sum of \$351.63, at a public session of said council held on Tuesday, January 3, 1933, for the said reason:

The Electric Light company has contracted to furnish the city a certain number of lights of the standard 2,000 candle power, for which the city has agreed to pay a certain amount of money. The city wants good light and is willing to allow for it, and it is satisfied that we are at all times getting it, would rather pay the bills in full rather than to make deductions. I do not say that the Electric Light company has any other desire than to furnish just what they have contracted to furnish, and seems to be making a strong effort to do so, but this system of lighting is in its infancy, and it would be very strange indeed if some difficulty would not be experienced by the company in fulfilling its contract at all times.

Mutual Concessions Needed.

In consideration of this fact, the city has generously overlooked many defects and complaints and made many allowances and paid bills, when there was a very general feeling that the contract was not complied with; and I do not think now that there is any disposition (certainly not on my part) to exact an absolute, technical compliance at every hour in the night on the part of every lamp but it seems to me there ought to be mutual concessions and that when everybody feels and knows that for some reason, whether insurmountable or not, we are not getting fully the light that we have contracted for, we ought not to be held to pay the last penny called for by the contract.

There are instances where the Electric Light company will have the advantage of the city during the entire continuance of the contract, as, for instance, it is provided that no deductions shall be made for lights not burning unless vouched for by some city officer to have been out for one hour continuously, and this information will be impossible to be obtained, with reference to a great many of the lamps. The city has taken steps to some extent to try to ascertain whether this contract was being fulfilled. It has employed what is supposed to be a competent electrician. He made a report for the month of October, showing a failure of nearly 10 per cent of the light to be furnished. The committee on lights, who have had charge of this matter throughout the year, after having heard the matter fully, made a deduction proportionate to this failure of light. It was then referred to a new committee (that of claims and accounts) and that such tests were made as to the company to observe these tests. I find also in the communication of the Electric Light company, sent to the council, in regard to this matter, contains this statement: "We deny the right of the city, under the existing contract, to deduct from the bill, except for lights out, as specified and provided in contract." Thus taking the position that if the light is poor no deduction can be made from the contract unless it is actually out for more than an hour and observed during that time by a city officer. It is therefore more than likely that there will be a difference of opinion between the city and the Electric Light company, in regard to the construction of the contract on several points, and I believe we ought now to insist upon our rights and the positions we take in regard to the contract.

No Obligation to Notify.

I cannot assent to the proposition that the city is under any legal obligation to notify the Electric Light company that tests are to be made at any particular time, or to observe these tests. I find also in the communication of the Electric Light company, sent to the council, in regard to this matter, contains this statement: "We deny the right of the city, under the existing contract, to deduct from the bill, except for lights out, as specified and provided in contract." Thus taking the position that if the light is poor no deduction can be made from the contract unless it is actually out for more than an hour and observed during that time by a city officer. It is therefore more than likely that there will be a difference of opinion between the city and the Electric Light company, in regard to the construction of the contract on several points, and I believe we ought now to insist upon our rights and the positions we take in regard to the contract.

Some of the aldermen seem to dread a law suit against the city, but this is not the worst calamity that can befall the city. Indeed, it is often worth more than the investment, even in case of defeat, as a means of education.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM J. STUART, Mayor.

Manager Hayward of the Electric Light company was asked what he would do if the veto was sustained. "We have \$100,000 of bonds," said he, "which are due in ten years, and we might as well start a sinking fund right now. If we placed the money in the bank we would get but 4 per cent, and if the city holds it we will get 6 per cent, and we will get all the deductions they make when the time comes. We

DR. PRICE'S
DELICIOUS
Flavoring
Extracts
NATURAL FRUIT FLAVORS.

Of perfect purity.
Of great strength.
Economy in their use.
Flavor as delicately
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are not going to start a law suit over a little deduction of \$351.63. We deny the right of the city to make any deductions. We have given \$25,000 bonds to the city for faithful performance of our contract. If we fail they should void the contract and hold the bonds for damages. The city is paying a large sum of money for its lights and it is right that a city electrician should be employed so that the city may know whether it is getting what it pays for. I have nothing to say against the city electrician. But we deny the right of the council to cut our bills."

City News in Brief.

Bishop Gillespie, who is particularly interested in Sunday schools, has organized recently a Sunday School institute, the quarterly meeting of which will be held in St. Mark's chapel on Friday evening. Interesting discussions will take place. Sunday school workers are especially invited to attend, but the conference is open to the public.

Epiphany festival will be observed tomorrow, January 6. Has long been kept in memorial of the wise men's visit to the infant Saviour. St. Mark's church will have a special holy communion in the chapel at 10 a. m., and in the evening a Sunday school conference will be held in the same place.

The contract was let yesterday in the city marshal's office for filling the Davis street quarry. There were eight bids, of which Michael Tenna's was lowest, at \$2,772. The highest bid was \$7,100. The papers will be drawn and signed today.

Members of St. Girard senate, Knights of the Ancient Escorial order, are requested to meet at Brotherhood hall, No. 6 Pearl street, at 3 p. m. today to attend the funeral of Brother Knight John H. Hines.

A horse belonging to Sam Brandy became disatisfied yesterday with the sleighing on Monroe street and tried the sidewalk. Officer Peck saw the animal and stopped him before any damage was done.

At 2:30 today St. Mark's Woman's Missionary society will hold its January meeting at the residence of Mrs. Jas. G. MacBride. Friends interested in missionary work are cordially invited to attend.

There will be a spiritual circle at Lincoln club hall, 64 Pearl street, this evening. Good mediums present. Remarks will be made by Mrs. Helen Stuart Richings at the close of the session.

A reunion of the Thirteenth Michigan infantry will be held at Kalamazoo on January 17. All "Old Boys" are to be at the union station at 7 o'clock p. m.

The remains of Theodore Pettie, who died Sunday night in St. Mark's hospital, will be held pending instructions from his brother in Kansas City.

C. C. Blakesley, who was injured by being thrown from a load of barrels in a recent runaway on Canal street, is now able to sit up.

Mrs. Mary Heffernan has returned to Wellesley college after spending the holidays with her parents at No. 272 Fountain street.

Mrs. A. Scott of 12 Ledyard block left yesterday for a six weeks' visit, with her brother, J. Dennister of Marquette, Mo.

"Plantation Life Down South" is Dr. M. L. Roeder's subject for his lecture in St. Matthew's school room, January 12.

The annual meeting of the Press club was held yesterday and permanent officers were elected.

H. M. Atwood has returned from Ithaca, N. Y., where he spent the holidays with his parents.

Evangelist Willis is attracting large congregations at the Second Street M. E. church.

The board of supervisors will formally accept the new poor house next Tuesday.

E. G. Studley returned yesterday from Chicago, where he has been on business.

The Y. M. C. A. congress will meet again tonight to complete its organization.

The tenth annual reception of the Penmanship club will be held this evening.

Born.—To Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Ferguson a daughter, December 30, 1932.

C. F. Kennedy filed his oath of office as deputy sheriff yesterday.

J. W. Marshall took the oath of office as deputy sheriff yesterday.

D. A. Blodgett has gone to spend the winter at Rock Lodge, Fla.

Colonel C. H. Roe is sick with a bad attack of the grippe.

Millicent Hive Installation.

A public installation of Millicent Hive of Macabees took place in the K. O. T. M. hall, No. 6 Pearl street, last evening. The following officers were installed: Lady commander, Mrs. Hattie M. Huff, lieutenant commander, Mrs. Ella Chandler; record keeper, Mrs. Artie Vandine; finance keeper, Mrs. Kate Boyer; chaplain, Mrs. Anna Rhenyard; sergeant, Mrs. Sophronia Rankin; mistress at arms, Mrs. Louisa Shepard; sentry, Mrs. Addie Ferris; picket, Mrs. Alice Whitney; hive physician, Mrs. Louise Andrews. After the installation refreshments were served by the committee.

First Reformed Annual.

The annual meeting of the First Reformed church was held last night. The church has recently disposed of two or three pieces of property which it obtained in trade when changing to its present location at Fountain and Barclay streets. It was decided that with the proceeds the church should go forward with the work of finishing up the auditorium. The expense of finishing and furnishing is estimated to be about \$10,000.

Its Fourth Anniversary.

The fourth annual meeting of the Mutual Home and Savings association will be held in Hartman's lecture hall Saturday evening. A program consisting of short talks by Judge Perkins, R. B. Leome, Clay H. Hollister, George E. Cogswell and C. W. Watkins, and music by the Webster male quartette will be given. Harry L. Creswell will write some poetry for the occasion. All are welcome to attend.

Luncheon and Reception.

Yesterday afternoon Mrs. M. S. Palmer and Mrs. Walter Hughes entertained about 200 of their friends at Mrs. Palmer's residence, No. 89 South Prospect street, with a luncheon and reception. The luncheon was spread in the dining room from 12 to 2, and the reception took place from 2 to 6. The table decorations were pink begonias, while pink carnations decorated the reception rooms.

He Knew What They Wanted.

Julius Vroch and Katarzyna Binkiewicz recently entered the office at police headquarters yesterday morning, and while Katarzyna stood in the doorway watching the corner of her apron, Julius inquired of Clerk Webster "Did

he vas dat county clerk?" Mr. Webster is a shrewd young man, and at once grasping the situation directed the pair to the county clerk's office, when they were soon the happy possessors of marriage license No. 6,238.

HE HAS A LITTLE BILL

For Reforming the System of Obtaining Vital Statistics.

Secretary Wilson, of the board of health, has plans in his mind for reforming birth and death returns so as to make them of more real practical value. His plan for making returns from townships, which has already been mentioned, contemplates taking the entire matter out of the hands of the county clerks. His bill provides for the return of births and deaths by physicians, relatives or attendants, to the township board of health, for which they are to receive 10 cents, or to the city boards, in cities. These boards, according to the bill, are required to make yearly returns to the state board of health. At present the supervisors report to the county clerk and receive 10 cents therefor. The clerk pays 3 cents for recording the return, and 3 cents more for furnishing a copy to the secretary of state. The latter furnishes the material for vital statistics to the state board of health. Dr. Wilson argues that the county clerk or the secretary of state has nothing to do with the matter. The city returns are made to the board of health direct, and are again made several months later, through the county clerk and secretary of state. Dr. Wilson will also endeavor to have 10 cents compensation paid for making returns of births in the city. The death returns come, as a matter of course, as burial permits are not issued until reports are received. The law requires returns of births, but provides no compensation therefor. The present system makes things easy for some of the city supervisors, who copy their returns from the board of health records. Dr. Wilson maintains that the records would be more accessible to the public in the township clerk's custody than elsewhere.

Wood-Bradley.

Miss Hattie A. Bradley and Fred H. Wood were married Tuesday evening at the home the groom had prepared, No. 705 Wealthy avenue. The Rev. William Deuman performed the ceremony in the presence of about sixty friends and relatives. The bride was resplendent in a gown of lavender silk and carried bride roses. A wedding supper was served and musical selections rendered by Mrs. Carrie Ferguson during the evening.

The bride was for several years one of the most pleasant and popular operators in the telephone exchange, and the groom is a traveling salesman in the employ of Carl Knott & Co. Hundreds of friends of the couple unite in wishing them future happiness and prosperity. Mr. and Mrs. Wood will be at home to their friends after January 10, at No. 705 Wealthy avenue.

Roach-Sincere Fight.

The fight between Johnnie Roach of the city and Harry Sincere of Kalamazoo will be held on some date between Jan. 13 and 16, within a few miles of this city. Although it would be termed a "rivalry contest," and be for a limited number of rounds, probably not to exceed twenty, it will be a hotly contested fight. The two men met recently in Muskegon and Roach was the winner, but Sincere now thinks he can whip him. The fight will be for \$300 a side.

Assignee Widdicombe Will Sell.

Judge Grove signed an order yesterday, restraining Mrs. Alice G. Lockerby from foreclosing on a certain chattel mortgage made to Dr. Shepard on the goods of C. S. Hartman, until the amount due shall have been determined. Assignee Widdicombe is directed to arrange for a sale, and the debtors are enjoined from proceeding to eject him from or dispossess him of the premises meanwhile.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH.

Is the Opening Day of the Boston Stores Great Linen Sale—A Magnificent Stock.

"Everything strictly as represented." is a familiar sentence often observed in the advertisements of the Boston store. There is nothing so essential to a firm's success in business as confidence from the public. Such is the feeling the people have towards the Boston store, and that is one of the causes of the firm's great success. Whenever an announcement is made by them, all know that reliance can be placed in it.

The Boston store announces for next week, commencing on Monday, January 9th, a great linen sale. The people are told that the stock will be the most magnificent ever shown in Michigan, and therefore know that it is the truth.

These great importations of linen have arrived and comprise shipments of Irish, Scotch and Germany goods, Housekeepers, hotel proprietors, restaurant keepers, and the public in general should not fail to remember that this great sale offers a grand opportunity to select an assortment of linens at a great reduction and that the sale commences Monday morning, January 9th.

INVENTORY SALE.

Prices No Object—Gents Furnishing Goods Going at a Big Reduction of Prices.

Gentlemen, have you secured all the heavy underwear you need? How is your hosiery and neckwear? Do you need a stylish hat or a nice warm pair of gloves? If any of these commodities are a necessity with you just at present let us whisper a few words into your ear. If you follow the suggestions we offer you will be saved some money. We suggest you patronize us just at the present time, because we are having our grand inventory sale. You know what that means. You know it means money in your pocket and first class goods on your person. We must have room for our spring stock, and as clear, cold money in our pockets is more preferable than winter goods in our store during spring and summer seasons, we want to make the exchange. We are selling our entire lines at a big discount. This is a great advantage to you. Try us.

Model Hat Store, 103 Canal Street.

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ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

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